

Questions provided by April Long on October 29, 2018

Q1 - Have the ditch owners been engaged? Do they approve of the project? Are they supporting it financially – how much? PS – Would make the group much more comfortable if they DO put in some money.

A1 - Yes, the ditch owners have been engaged through Bill Reynolds, the President of the Robinson Ditch Company. We walked the site with the Ditch Company and their consultants prior to developing the conceptual designs. We provided the conceptual designs to the Ditch Company for review and comment prior to showing them to other stakeholders and the public. They approve of how the project is progressing and are excited about the opportunity to be a part of removing this navigation hazard in the Roaring Fork River. A letter of support from the Robinson Ditch Company is attached. We generally have been meeting with the Ditch Company representatives about once a quarter. Pitkin County will continue to collaborate and coordinate with the Ditch Company at every step of the process.

We have been speaking with the Robinson Ditch Company about contributing financially to the project, but there has not been a commitment to date. They have donated in-kind support in the form of time spent by the Ditch Company staff and their consultants, meeting with the project team, reviewing plans and providing feedback.

Q2 - \$800K seems like a large price tag – can you explain the costs (maybe provide the breakdown again and how the estimates were prepared (maybe based on another projects' actual costs)?

A2- Unfortunately channel spanning work in a stream as large as the Roaring Fork River is costly. Unit costs of raw materials, especially boulders have risen steadily the last few years. Cost of work area isolation and erosion control best management practices (BMP's) are more expensive on a river project than erosion control BMP's on a typical road/building project, particularly in a Gold Medal stream such as the Roaring Fork River. The design team has been incorporating a number of elements to reduce construction costs, including the use of existing onsite boulder, reducing material haul off needs and minimizing the need for coffer dams.

Engineer's opinion of cost for the conceptual plan is attached, which includes all soft-costs associated with developing, permitting and constructing the project. The unit cost for the construction elements are based on recent, similar work constructed in the valley, including the Pitkin County Whitewater Park in Basalt and the Elk Creek Fish Passage Channel project in New Castle. Let us know if you would like a copy of those project's bid-tabs. The unit costs presented do include a 15% contingency factor, which is typical for a conceptual design.

Q3 - Are recreational groups participating, in-kind or financially? If no, why not?

A3 - We have engaged several recreational groups, including the Roaring Fork Fishing Guide Alliance (RFFGA), Trout Unlimited Ferdinand Hayden (TUFH) Chapter and American Whitewater. Letters of support from RFFGA and TUFH are attached. We have been speaking with these organizations and others about some financial contributions, but do not have any commitments yet. We would expect any financial contributions from these organizations to be small.

The County's strategy has been to secure the initial grants and build more support for the project in order incentivize some of these smaller groups to contribute financially or through in-kind donations. In-kind donations may take the form of: spearheading future grant applications associated with their organizations, participating in stakeholder meetings, and volunteering for small implementation tasks such as planting and seeding.

Robinson Ditch Company  
c/o Mid Valley Metropolitan District  
31 Duroux Lane, Suite A  
Basalt, Colorado 81621

September 12, 2018

Mr. Jim Pokrandt, Director  
Colorado River District

Via Email: [jpokrandt@crwcd.org](mailto:jpokrandt@crwcd.org)

Re: Letter of Support for Robinson Ditch Head Gate / Roaring Fork River Improvement Project

Dear Jim,

It is my understanding that the Colorado River Water Conservation Roundtable Committee is considering a grant request for a Roaring Fork River project to improve river access for all river users around the Robinson Ditch Head Gate close to the Emma "82" bridge. The Robinson Ditch Company is working with Healthy Rivers and River Restoration.Org on this project and the intent is to improve river access through this stretch for all users and to help the Robinson Ditch improve flows to its head gate during peak and low flows into the ditch.

As a bit of history, the Robinson Ditch was adversely impacted during the Highway 82 bridge installation years ago when the Basalt Bypass was constructed. An effort was made in the river to improve the channeling of water into the head gate with limited success. The efforts also further limited all recreational boating, rafting and kayak access. This project I believe will address the concerns.

On behalf of the Robinson Ditch Company, kindly accept this letter as a letter of support for the proposed project and your consideration for helping to fund this worthwhile river community project.

Kindest Regards,

Bill Reynolds  
President  
Robinson Ditch Company

**PROJECT: Robinson Diversion - Roaring Fork River, El Jebel, CO**  
**Conceptual Cost Opinion -Constructed Riffle with Boulder Grade Control**

Ver 1 -Date: **October 1, 2018**

Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Totals	Notes / Assumptions
<b>Mobilization and Site Preparation</b>						
Erosion and Sediment Control	1	LS	\$15,000	\$15,000		
Site Access	1	LS	\$25,000	\$25,000		Assume access road will be regraded and ditch can be blocked during construction
Care of water	1	LS	\$125,000	\$125,000		Assume river will need to be diverted to left then right
Site Restoration	1	LS	\$15,000	\$15,000		Regrade and replant bank access points, restore ditch, refurbish curb at start of ccces
				<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$180,000</b>	
<b>Upper Grade Control Structure</b>						
Channel Excavation	391	CY	\$17	\$6,747		
Furnish, Deliver and Place Boulder	377	TON	\$127	\$47,713		
Furnish, Deliver and Place Select Boulder	50	TON	\$207	\$10,350		
Alluvial Backfill	176	CY	\$12	\$2,024		
Haul and Disposal of Alluvial Material offsite	215	CY	\$52	\$11,132		
				<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$77,966</b>	
<b>Lower Grade Control Structure</b>						
Channel Excavation	518	CY	\$17	\$8,939		
Furnish, Deliver and Place Boulder	349	TON	\$127	\$44,120		
Furnish, Deliver and Place Select Boulder	100	TON	\$207	\$20,700		
Rework Existing Boulder	626	TON	\$69	\$43,166		assume 3/5 structure will be reworked boulder
Alluvial Backfill	220	CY	\$12	\$2,530		
Haul and Disposal of Alluvial Material offsite	298	CY	\$52	\$15,433		
				<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$134,889</b>	
<b>Engineered Riffle and Bank Improvements</b>						
Regrade Riffle	460	CY	\$29	\$13,225		
Haul and Disposal of Alluvial Material offsite	60	CY	\$52	\$3,105		
Furnish, Deliver and Place Riffle Boulder	188	TON	\$127	\$23,719		
Furnish, Deliver and Place Bank Boulder	240	TON	\$127	\$30,360		
Erosion Control Matting	600	SY	\$23	\$13,800		
Top Soil	100	CY	\$58	\$5,750		
Bank Revegetation	600	SY	\$23	\$13,800		
				<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$103,759</b>	
<b>Robinson Diversion Headgate Improvements</b>						
Haul and Disposal of Alluvial Material offsite	325	CY	\$52	\$16,819		
Sluice Gate	1	LS	\$46,000	\$46,000		
Furnish, Deliver and Place Bank Boulder	300	TON	\$127	\$37,950		
Bank Grading	350	CY	\$40	\$14,000		
Erosion Control Matting	150	SY	\$23	\$3,450		
				<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$118,219</b>	
<b>ITEMIZED CONSTRUCTION SUBTOTAL</b>					<b>\$614,832</b>	
Land Survey (LS)				\$5,000		
Geotechnical Engineering				\$0		
Structural Engineering				\$0		
Utility Relocations				\$0		
Traffic Control				\$2,000		
Hydrographic Survey				\$3,000		
Cultural Resource Survey and Report				\$0		
Full Wetland Delineation				\$0		
Lands and Easements (Permanent)				\$0		
Lands and Easements (Construction)				\$0		
Lands and Easements Processing				\$0		
Construction Bonding/Ins (5%)				\$30,742		5% construction after design
Mob and Demob (5%)				\$30,742		5% construction
Environmental Assessment Recovery Prgm				\$0		
Public Outreach and Coordination				\$5,000		
Engineering Design				\$22,000		
Hydraulic Modeling				\$17,000		
Permitting 404, 401				\$12,000		
CDOT ROW License				\$0		
Permitting Floodplain				\$8,000		
Plans and Specifications for bid				\$25,000		
Construction Stakeout				\$3,000		
Construction Review Observations				\$20,000		
Vegetation Replacement YR 2				\$1,000		
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST OPINION</b>				<b>\$799,315</b>		



Kyle Holt  
*President*  
Rick Lofaro  
*Vice President*  
John Livingston  
*Secretary*  
*& Treasurer*

September 27, 2018

Commissioner Patti Clapper, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners  
Pitkin County  
530 E. Main Street, Suite 302  
Aspen, CO 81611

**RE: Support for Robinson Diversion Modification Project**

Dear Commissioner Clapper,

Our group, the Roaring Fork Fishing Guide Alliance, has a keen interest in the health and vitality of the Roaring Fork River region. The current boulder structure in the Roaring Fork River adjacent to the Robinson Diversion headgate is a known navigation hazard for private and commercial rafters and boaters. At all water levels and especially lower levels, the area has been a real danger for our float guides and other recreational users. This project will improve safety and also make connections in the Roaring Fork River through the mid-valley for all river users. The project will also decrease the need for annual/biannual in-channel maintenance activities in this reach of the Roaring Fork, thus reducing impacts to the river channel. Since our beginning in 2014, we have advocated for change and improvement at the Robinson site. Ultimately, the project should improve the ability for trout to move up and down the river.

On behalf of the Roaring Fork Fishing Guide Alliance, I am writing in support of the Robinson Diversion Project. The project will open up an underutilized reach of the Roaring Fork River through the mid-valley for commercial and recreational users, and reduce impacts to the river and its riparian corridor. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

P.O. Box 4112, Basalt, CO 81621

Sincerely,

  
John Livingston 'JL'

Secretary/Treasurer, RFFGA

**Our mission statement: Professional fishing guides dedicated to the protection and conservation of the Roaring Fork region fisheries. Guides and anglers promoting awareness and stewardship for future generations.**



September 27, 2018

Commissioner Patti Clapper, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners  
Pitkin County  
530 E. Main Street, Suite 302  
Aspen, CO 81611

**RE: Support for Robinson Diversion Modification Project**

Dear Commissioner Clapper,

The local Ferdinand Hayden Trout Unlimited chapter (FHTU) has a keen interest in the health and vitality of the Roaring Fork River through mid-valley. The current boulder structure in the Roaring Fork River adjacent to the Robinson Diversion headgate is a known navigation hazard for private and commercial boaters and likely a barrier to aquatic species.

This project will improve connections in the Roaring Fork River through mid-valley for all river users, including boaters and aquatic species. The project will also decrease the need for annual/biannual in-channel maintenance activities in this reach of the Roaring Fork, thus reducing impacts to the river channel.

At a recent meeting, our board voiced unanimous support for the Robinson Diversion Project, which will open up an underutilized reach of the Roaring Fork River through mid-valley for recreational users, improve connections for aquatic species and reduce impacts to the river and its riparian corridor. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Matt Kelsic  
FHTU president  
(720) 560-4490  
mkelsic@att.net

Collin Szewczyk  
FHTU vice president  
(773) 425-1074  
onehandedflycaster@gmail.com